

Approved For Release 2004/03/16 : CIA-RDP80M00165A00100090016-7

DOI #1263-77

28 March 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
SUBJECT : CIA Watch Representation in the Department of Defense

1. As you probably recall I have [] people assigned full time to the NMCC/JCS/DOD, [] watch officers and a GS-14 Liaison Officer. The Agency has maintained this watch representation for about thirteen years now; I added the Liaison Officer in 1974 when I felt the need for a more senior and more broadly based individual there to tend to our crisis management equities vis-a-vis DOD. He is Bill Joy, a former SDO, and over the last several years has been quite effective in developing associations with the senior levels of the J-3/JCS. He recently dropped in to acquaint me with a potential problem that could affect our equities there and thus the reason for this note.

2. After years of planning and a good deal of wrangling DIA is in the final stages of improving and expanding its operations center, the NMIC. As part of this upgrading they are moving from their old location to a location right next door to the NMCC. However, this move is described as "collocation" not integration. Thus, while they are larger, have better and more modern equipment and have within them a Collection Coordinating Facility (CCF) cell, they will still have the same old problems with the operators, particularly in terms of the development of operational options during crisis times.

3. With the coming of this expanded NMIC (April 1 is the kick-off date) there has been a strong move on the part of DIA management (Adm. Robertson) to expand its community representation in the NMIC. As part of that move they have circulated a position paper within the DOD hierarchy advocating the transfer of the NSA and CIA watch contingents from NMCC to NMIC. This as you can imagine has caused a "battle royale" in DOD which we should stay away from at all costs, particularly since I most strongly advocate staying with the NMCC. However, because of Sam Wilson's and Tom Latimer's old associations out here with people like Hank Knoche and others I do not want him or you to be mouse-trapped by requests from that quarter asking him to support such a transfer, which in my judgment, would do irreparable harm to our relationships with J-3/JCS. If the senior levels of the Agency or the Community feel it is in CIA's political interests to play ball with DIA and are willing

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to duplicate the four (4) watch officers we now have at NMCC in the NMIC then I would, of course, have no objections. My objection would be against the move that would advocate the transfer of our present group from NMCC to NMIC.

4. To reinforce my apprehension on this point I had the occasion this morning to brief two Generals from NMCC, one of whom, Major General Jerry O'Malley, is the Deputy to the J-3/JCS, Lt. General C. J. LeVan. During our conversations it became quite clear that any move away from the NMCC would be hotly resisted and would open us to the charge of not adequately supporting our military operational brethren in the Pentagon.

5. If you or Hank need any more information, I have several documents that further articulate the points of view expressed herein.



Vincent J. Heyman
Director
CIA Operations Center

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Hank -

I don't know what to do
but call your attention to this.

Sayre

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